

WYCOMBE WAND. WELL ON TOP

Oxford Mail Special Report

MUCH more effective in attack, Wycombe Wanderers largely monopolised the play in their Isthmian League game against Dulwich Hamlet and deserved their 4-1 win.

Wycombe Wanderers: Maskell; Bradshaw, Beck; Baker, Rundle, Gale; Worley, Samuels, Bates, Horseman, Merrick.

Dulwich Hamlet: Ockendon; Firmin, Merritt; Woollard, Joyce, Day; Buchan, Slade, Clark, Modesto, Page.

Referee: K Sutcliffe (Rainham).

With some brisk attacks in the biting wind, Wycombe had Dulwich on the defensive from the start and panic clearances conceded several corner kicks.

Goalkeeper Ockendon stopped a long-range drive from Bates and then rallied to divert a shot from Horseman.

NOT IMPRESSIVE

The Hamlet forwards did not impress and play was largely confined to the visitors' half with their goalkeeper the busiest man on the field.

Wycombe took the lead after 22 minutes when BATES converted a pass from Gale, pushing the ball into the empty net when the goalkeeper ran out to challenge.

Samuels was unlucky not to add a second with a flying header and Bates and Horseman both tested the goalkeeper in strong Wycombe attacks before BATES increased Wycombe's lead in the 34th minute after good work by Horseman.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 2, Dulwich Hamlet 0.

Twenty-seven minutes after the changeover, SLADE sprung a surprise by banging one in for Dulwich.

Four minutes later, Wycombe struck back and after Ockendon had saved a header from Merrick, SAMUELS ran in to score close in from the rebound.

In a scramble in the goal-mouth shortly before the end, HORSEMAN added another for Wycombe.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WAN.	4
DULWICH HAMLET	1

SLADE ROUSES WYCOMBE

Wycombe 4 Dulwich 1

WYCOMBE strengthened their position among the Isthmian League leaders with a clear-cut victory over lowly Dulwich. But they looked more docile than in recent home games and complacency prevented them exploiting their superiority.

Unimpressive in attack, Dulwich put up a stout defence against the speedy Wycombe front line. But it was goalkeeper Ockendon who was largely to thank for their survival in many attacks.

The Hamlet defence found centre forward Paul Bates troublesome, and he outwitted them to score twice in the first half, once from a pass by Gale after 22 minutes, and again 12 minutes later from a pass by Horseman.

Though they dictated the play in the second half, Wycombe attacked in vain until a surprise Dulwich goal from Slade woke them up in the 72nd minute.

Then Wycombe stepped up the tempo in the last 10 minutes and Samuels and Horseman added two more to make sure.